



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Mount Rainier National Park  
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[www.nps.gov/mora](http://www.nps.gov/mora)

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## Mount Rainier National Park News Release

Release Date: November 28, 2016

Contact: Karen Thompson, 360-569-6507

### Comments Invited: Wireless Telecommunications Applications

The National Park Service has received two right-of-way permit applications from wireless telecommunications providers to install and co-locate wireless communications facilities within Mount Rainier National Park. The proposed location is in the Paradise area, within the National Historic Landmark District, and would not require the construction or use of a tower.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 mandates that the National Park Service consider all telecommunications permit proposals that it receives for installations located on National Park lands. Therefore, Mount Rainier National Park is evaluating permit proposals from Verizon and T-Mobile. The issuance of a permit such as this triggers the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and provides an opportunity for public comment.

Mount Rainier National Park is considering two alternatives: a no action alternative, and an action alternative. Under the **no action alternative**, a right-of-way permit would not be granted, and wireless cellular service would not be provided by Verizon Wireless/T-Mobile in the park's Paradise area. Under **the action alternative**, the telecommunications companies would be granted right-of-way permits, enabling them to provide year-round service to their customers in the most heavily visited area of the park.

The proposed action would allow installation of telecommunications support equipment in the attics of the Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise. Antennas would be mounted on the interior of the east and west gable ends of the non-historic building, behind a special fiberglass panel designed to match the existing exterior wood siding.

Mount Rainier National Park invites you to comment on the proposal using the online National Park Service Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ParadiseCellular> or mail comments to:

Superintendent, Mount Rainier National Park  
55210 238<sup>th</sup> Ave East  
Ashford, WA 98304

A brochure containing additional information is provided on the PEPC website. **The public scoping period will be open for 14 days ending Monday, December 12, 2016.** If you have questions about how to comment on this proposal, please contact Karen Thompson, Mount Rainier National Park

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Environmental Coordinator at 360-569-6507. You may also contact Deputy Superintendent Tracy Swartout at 360-569-6501.

[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

Park information, announcements, and the Mount Rainier webcams are posted on the park's official website, [nps.gov/mora](http://nps.gov/mora).

- Get additional information and updates by joining the Mount Rainier community on **Facebook**:  
[facebook.com/MountRainierNPS](https://facebook.com/MountRainierNPS)
- Find out breaking news and road status updates through Mount Rainier's **Twitter** feed:  
[twitter.com/MountRainierNPS](https://twitter.com/MountRainierNPS)
- Explore the park and behind-the-scenes operations with our videos on **YouTube**:  
[youtube.com/MountRainierNPS](https://youtube.com/MountRainierNPS)
- Share your own photos of Mount Rainier with other visitors in the Mount Rainier **Flickr** group:  
[flickr.com/groups/MountRainierNPS](https://flickr.com/groups/MountRainierNPS)

***About the National Park Service-*** More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 413 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities.